

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the title, specification, Figures 1, 3 and 4 and claims 1, 7, 10 and 13 are amended and new claims 16-20 are added.

The Office Action states Figure 1 should be labeled as --Prior Art--. However, there is no indication of why Figure 1 is "prior art." That is, Figure 1 is properly labeled as --Background Art--. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's requirement. However, applicants have amended Figure 1 as suggested in the Office Action so as to further prosecution. This is not an admission as to Figure 1 being prior art.

The Office Action states that the title of the invention is not descriptive. It is respectfully submitted that the above new title is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The Office Action rejects claim 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by U.S. Patent 5,164,831 to Kuchta et al. (hereafter Kuchta). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites checking whether a cut-off mode has been set for the main image signal, and transmitting and displaying, during a telephonic communication, a sub-image signal instead of the main image signal in case that the cut-off mode is set.

Kuchta does not teach or suggest all these features of independent claim 1. That is, the Office Action relies on Kuchta's col. 7, lines 4-58 for the claimed checking whether the cut-off mode has been set and the claimed transmitting and displaying a sub-image signal in case the cut-

off mode is set. However, Kuchta does not relate to a cut-off mode. Rather, Kuchta merely discloses that an operator may control a selector 104 and the selector 104 may route a thumbnail to a monitor 116. This allows the thumbnail representation to be separated from the collection of images on a memory card 24. However, the mere selection of a thumbnail image is not the claimed checking whether a cut-off mode has been set. Furthermore, there is no suggestion in Kuchta for transmitting and displaying, during a telephonic communication, a sub-image signal instead of the main image signal in case the cut-off mode is set as recited in independent claim 1. Thus, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter.

Each of independent claims 7, 10 and 13 define patentable subject matter for at least similar reasons. That is, independent claim 7 recites an image signal selector for selectively outputting, during a telephonic communication, a sub-image signal instead of the main image signal to the image signal processor or the display unit in case that the cut-off mode has been set. Furthermore, independent claim 10 recites a controller for checking whether a cut-off mode has been set for the main image signal, and an image signal selector for outputting a sub-image signal instead of the main image signal to the image signal processor in case that the cut-off mode has been set, the image signal selector outputting the sub-image signal during a telephonic communication. Independent claim 13 similarly recites a controller and an image signal selector where the image signal selector outputting the sub-image signal during a telephonic communication.

Kuchta does not teach or suggest at least these features for at least similar reasons as set forth above. Thus, each of independent claims 1, 7, 10 and 13 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 2-6 and 16-17 depend from claim 1, claims 8-9 depend from claim 7, claims 11-12 depend from claim 10 and claims 14-15 depend from claim 13 and therefore define patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references. For example, dependent claim 16 recites setting the cut-off mode. Dependent claim 17 recites that the cut-off mode is set during telephonic communication. Kuchta does not teach or suggest these features as Kuchta does not set a cut-off mode and does not relate to telephonic communication. See also dependent claims 18-20. These dependent claims define patentable subject matter at least for this additional reason.

CONCLUSION

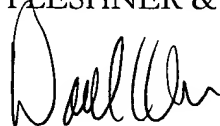
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-20 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **David C. Oren**, at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. 09/917,722
Reply to Office Action mailed December 28, 2004

Docket No. P-0247

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached annotated sheets show changes to Figs. 1, 3 and 4. For example, Fig. 1 is amended to change "Background Art" to --Prior Art--. In Fig. 3, the outputs of block S12 have been reversed and in Fig. 4, the outputs of block S21 have been reversed. These changes are based on the specific discussion set forth in the specification.

Attachments: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

FIG. 1
~~BACKGROUND ART~~
 PRIOR ART

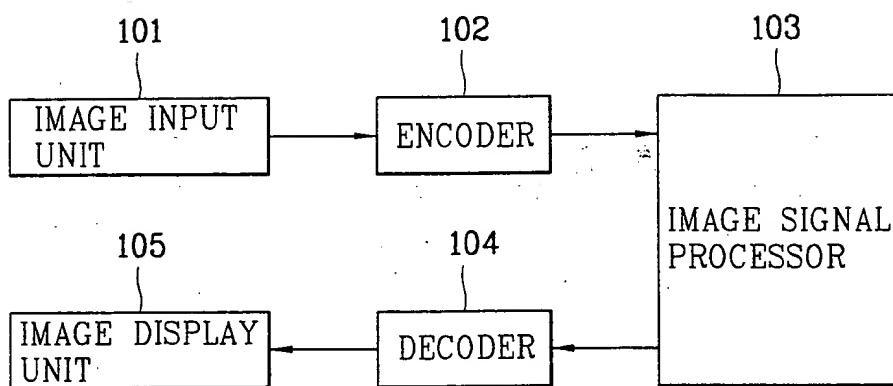
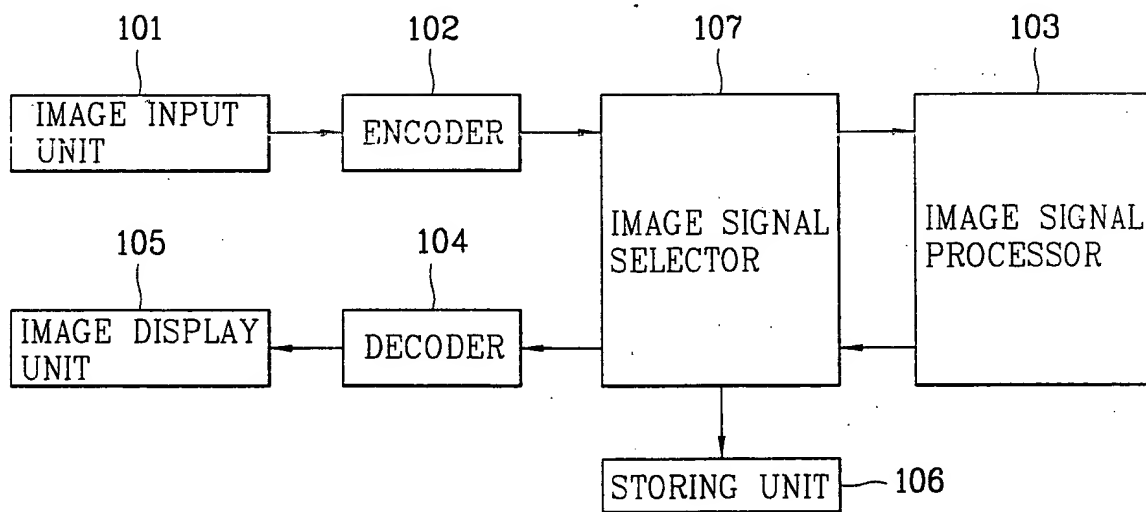


FIG. 2



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UNNOTATED SHEET

FIG. 3

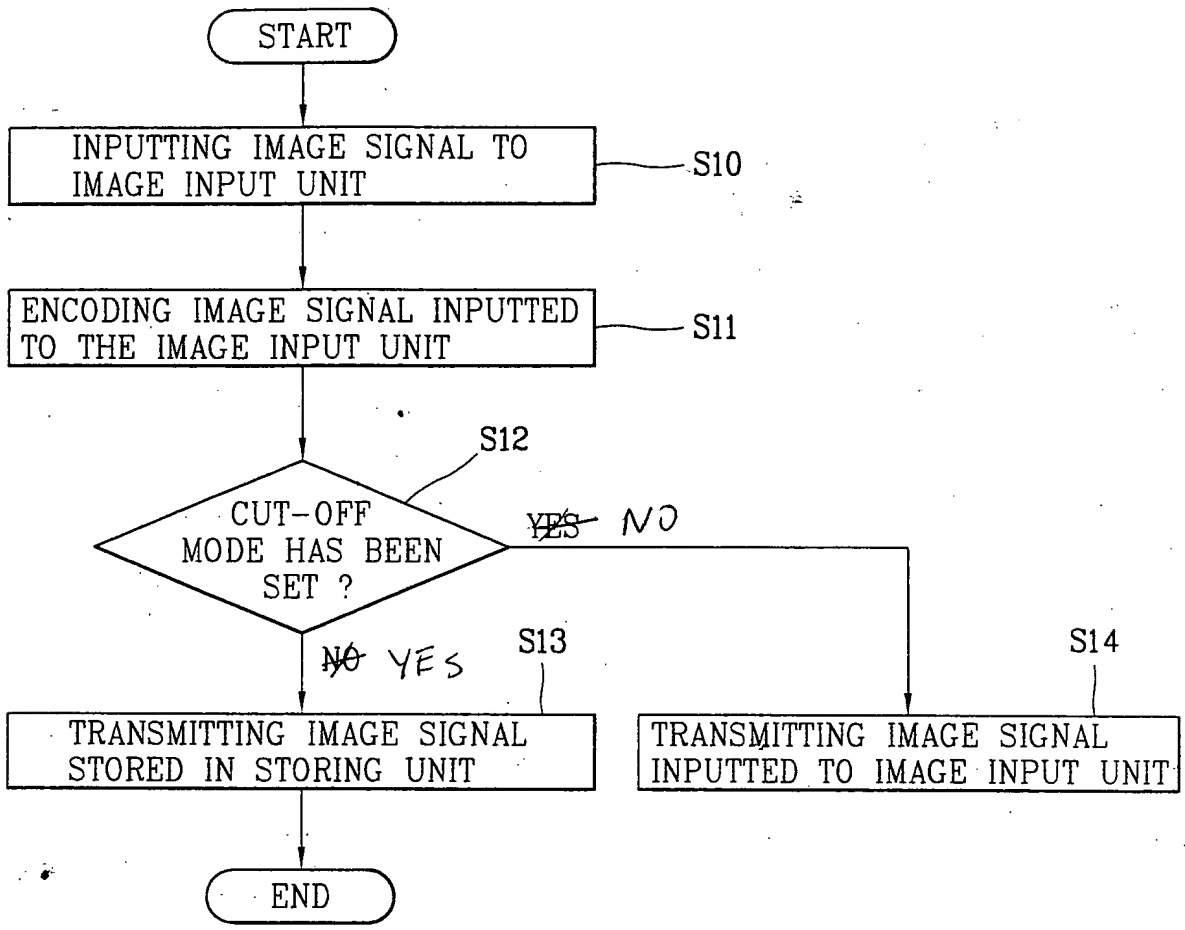


FIG. 4

